

RAGING RIVERS.

Another Bad Break in the Mississippi River at Fowler Lake.

THE JIM RIVER SUBMERGING FARMS.

A Steamboat Sent from Yankton, S. D., to Rescue Sufferers—Four Hundred Families Made Homeless by the Mississippi at St. Paul.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 5.—Another disastrous break in the Mississippi levee occurred yesterday at Fowler lake, six miles below Tunica, Miss. The crevasse, while not yet of great width, is fully 15 feet deep and the water is pouring through the opening with great velocity. This will probably be the most destructive break that has occurred in the delta. The most fertile farm lands of Mississippi, lying in Cohoma, Laffore, Quitman and Tallahatchie counties, in the northern part of the state, will be inundated and the newly-planted corn crops will be laid waste. Fortunately, no loss of life is reported, the inhabitants of this stricken section having made preparations for just such a catastrophe as exists there to-day. The condition of the poorer classes throughout the flooded area is indeed critical. Thousands of refugees are huddled on the levees and spots of land, waiting for relief. The towns of Rosedale and Tunica report that everything possible is being done for these poor people, but that funds and provisions are fast becoming exhausted. In the little city of Rosedale alone 1,200 refugees are being cared for by citizens. Half a hundred towns stand in six feet of water, and the yellow stream is creeping up slowly but surely. Advice just received tell of a break in the levee two miles south of Helena, Ark. This is the levee for which the people of southeastern Arkansas have made such a desperate fight. The waters from this break will flood a great area and in all probability will back up into the streets of Helena.

THE JIM RIVER SUBMERGING FARMS. OMAHA, Neb., April 5.—Special telegrams from points in South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska bring word of increased floods in all the rivers. Rain has fallen almost incessantly for the last 72 hours over an area of more than 100 miles in radius from Omaha, the fall being fully four inches for that time. This has greatly increased the volume of water in the already swollen streams and now what are usually babbling brooks have been transformed into raging torrents. Thousands of acres of farm lands are under from four to six feet of running water, and many families have moved from their homes in boats. Along the Jim river in South Dakota a great many farmers had gone back to their homes when the water receded early last week, and are now caught in this second flood. A Missouri river steamboat has been sent from Yankton to rescue the sufferers along the Jim river. Sioux City reports that the Missouri has passed the danger line there and is overflowing the lower part of the city. Cherokee reports the second flood on the Little Sioux worse than the first. Repairs had commenced on the property damaged by the first deluge, but all is being washed away again. Yankton is cut off from railroad communication and most of the telegraph and telephone lines are down. Pierre reports the Missouri river clear of ice there, but word from Bismarck is that the ice on the upper river began to move last night. At Omaha the Missouri is still within bounds, but preparations are being made against a dangerous flood.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER UP NORTH. ST. PAUL, Minn., April 5.—The Mississippi river is still rising, but is yet almost two feet below the high water mark of 1881. Nearly 400 families living on the flats have been rendered homeless and are in a destitute condition, notwithstanding the efforts of the authorities to assist them. Several public buildings have been opened to them for shelter. No serious damage has been done to business, and the railroads are still above the flood.

RIVERA SAFE AT PRESENT.

Orders from Madrid That His Trial by Court-Martial Be Postponed.

HAVANA, April 5.—Acting Capt.-Gen. Ahumada has received orders from Minister of War Azcarraga at Madrid not to try Gen. Ruis Rivera immediately by court-martial. The minister thinks that a summary court-martial, followed by the shooting of Rivera and Bacallao, would have a bad effect in Europe. It has just transpired that Rivera was captured in a hospital and not in battle, as the official reports alleged. Rivera had been wounded in a skirmish two days previous to his capture, and when seized was receiving treatment in a Cuban hospital.

Adm. Ramsay Retired.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Rear Admiral Francis M. Ramsay, holding the most important office in the naval service, that of chief of the bureau of navigation, will be retired on account of age to-day. During the civil war Lieut. Ramsay distinguished himself by his bravery in many of the important naval actions, first in the lower Mississippi and later on the south Atlantic coast, at Fort Fisher and elsewhere.

A FATAL FIRE.

A Capitalist and an Architect Perish in a Conflagration at Chattanooga.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 5.—The Richardson building, the largest in Chattanooga, was totally destroyed by fire, which started from the furnace in the basement, between 3:30 and six o'clock this morning. The watchman was slow in turning in an alarm, and when the fire companies arrived the building was a mass of flames. The watchman warned a number of men sleeping on the sixth floor and all succeeded in getting out except Boyd Ewing, one of the wealthiest men in this section, and S. M. Patton, a leading architect of the south. Mr. Ewing attempted to climb down the fire escape, but fell from the top. His body was badly mutilated. Patton was cut off from escape on the stairs and his body is still in the ruins.

VICTORY FOR OXFORD.

Cambridge Led for a Time, but the Oxonians Won Handily.

PUTNEY, Eng., April 5.—The 54th annual boat race between crews representing the universities of Oxford and Cambridge was rowed Saturday over the usual course, from Putney to Mortlake, a distance of 4½ miles, and Oxford won by barely two lengths in 19 minutes, 12 seconds. Oxford has now won 31 out of 54 races rowed and has been the winner eight years in succession. Cambridge led for a short distance, but five furlongs from the start Oxford was half a length ahead. The wind was strong and behind the men all the way. Cambridge rowed desperately. Oxford spurred at intervals and was once 3½ lengths in the lead, but at no time was it sure of the race.

A LAUDABLE ENTERPRISE.

The Efforts to Increase the Tobacco Production in Missouri Attracting Attention.

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 5.—The efforts of the board of agriculture, through the generosity of the Liggett & Myers Co., to increase tobacco production in Missouri by agitating that subject through the press of the state, is attracting widespread and favorable attention. The representative country papers of the state have entered heartily into the spirit of friendly competition in this laudable undertaking for the prizes, 25 in number and aggregating \$1,500. The articles submitted in competition are all to be published next week.

Rearrested for Alleged Murder.

WEST PLAINS, Mo., April 5.—W. H. Yost was arrested here yesterday on the charge of being implicated in the murder of the Sawyer family in Douglas county last May. The last grand jury in Douglas county found an indictment against Yost of murder in the first degree. He was tried and acquitted last October of the charge of killing Ernest Sawyer. Ed Perry who was hanged at Ava in January for the killing, said on the gallows that Yost was as guilty as he. It is said that since Perry was hanged new evidence has been found, and the indictment for first degree murder followed.

Indian Territory Asphalt Find.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., April 5.—Near Miami, I. T., yesterday a rich bed of pure asphaltum was found. The bed is over a mile square and apparently inexhaustible. Superintendent Mitchell, of the Memphis road, whose Joplin branch has just been extended to Miami, received samples yesterday from the owners, who are preparing to develop the find. It is of fine quality for paving. No other asphaltum has ever been found in this part of the country.

Dingley Coal Duties Opposed.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 5.—The convention of organized and unorganized miners of Illinois has passed resolutions opposing the increase in the tariff on coal from 40 to 75 cents a ton proposed by the Dingley bill. The resolutions state that the exportation of coal exceeded the imports by 2,500,000 tons, and the increase in the tariff was likely to inspire a retaliatory tariff which would prove a detriment to American miners.

Texas Cattle in the Territory.

PERRY, Ok., April 5.—W. O. Jordan, inspector of the bureau of animal industry of Texas, writes a party here and says that cattle sent from Texas to the Indian territory and Oklahoma for grazing this summer will reach 300,000, 50,000 more than were sent any other year. Many of these cattle are already unloaded in Otoe, Ponca and Osage Indian reservations north of here.

For Equal Gulf Rates.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 5.—The railroad commissioners are endeavoring to secure concessions of rates to the gulf and have suggested to M. A. Low, of the Rock Island, that the railroads, as an earnest of their good intentions, should put in a rate of 23 cents from all Kansas points.

Boy Killed by the Cars.

CARROLLTON, Mo., April 5.—William Gater, about 18 years old, whose home was near Lancaster in this state, fell from a Santa Fe freight train which was just pulling out from here at midnight last night. He was badly crushed and died four hours later. He was beating his way.

Three Were Drowned.

CINCINNATI, April 5.—A special from Clarksville, Tenn., says: The steamer R. T. Cole, loaded with merchandise, sank near this city. Three men about were drowned and one man is missing. The boat will be a total loss.

TERRIBLE CYCLONE.

Chandler, Ok., Overwhelmed by an Awful Storm.

But Two Buildings Were Left Standing—Nineteen Bodies Taken from the Ruins and Many More Killed—Fire Aids in the Work of Ruin.

GUTHRIE, Ok., March 31.—A tornado that struck Chandler, 40 miles east of here, about six o'clock last night, all but wiped that thriving little city of 1,500 souls off the face of the earth. Fire completed the ruin begun by the wind, and the sun this morning rose on a scene of devastation the like of which was never seen in the west before. Nineteen bodies have already been taken from the ruins, and there are probably a score or more still lying under the wrecked buildings. At least 150 persons are injured severely. A dozen of these are lying. Scarcely a person in town escaped injury of a minor character. Many of the injured met death by fire while pinned under the debris. In one building five injured people were burned to death and at another place the incinerated bodies of three unknown children have been taken out. All the physicians in Chandler have been killed or injured with one exception. It is reported that ex-Mayor McHenry, of this city, and one member of his family were killed and the other injured.

But two buildings are left standing in the town of Chandler, the Mitchell hotel and the Rock Island store. Fully three-fourths of the buildings in town are practically destroyed. The property loss can only be guessed at, but it is enormous, running into the hundreds of thousands. The tornado struck the courthouse while court was in session, twisted the building around and hurled it into the street a complete wreck. Fifteen or 20 people in the building were badly hurt and several are still missing. Darkness at once came on and the work of rescue was carried on under greatest difficulties. Chandler is built on a hill in thick timber, and the mass of torn trees and wrecked houses made it impossible to reach all of the people in the dark. On every side were heard groans and cries for help, and the scene was indescribable.

A large number of physicians and other citizens left here at once for the scene with surgical instruments, drugs and other supplies. A later message stated that a large number of people known to have been in business buildings were missing, and it is feared they are dead under the ruins.

At one o'clock a. m. Chandler sent for more help, and rescue parties went from all towns in the vicinity. The entire business portion burned after being wrecked. There are now thought to be 25 or 30 more dead bodies in the burned ruins. James Woodard and wife, of Eldorado, Kan., visiting there, were instantly killed, and little daughter fatally crushed and son badly hurt.

The scene is simply awful. Several of the injured are raving crazy. The main street of the town is a mass of dead and injured people and teams, wagons, buggies, trees and debris from the buildings. Chief Justice Dale, who was holding court there, ran with his wife to a hollow and held her behind a large bowlder and both were unhurt. Every building but one on the main street is wrecked and burned, including the courthouse, post office, News and Democrat offices, Lincoln county bank and several hotels.

WORSE EVERY DAY.

The Lower Mississippi Floods Devastating Property and Destroying Life.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 31.—There are now three breaks in the levee that protects the Mississippi delta from the waters of the river. One is seven miles below Greenville, Miss., at Wayside, which is 1,300 feet wide. One is 40 miles north of Greenville, at the head of the delta, which is 1,000 feet wide and becoming deeper and longer as the water rushes through it. The third occurred at an early hour yesterday morning seven miles north of a point opposite Arkansas City and at last reports a stream as wide as the Hudson was tearing through it and covering the country for miles in the interior. Greenville is in great danger. The water from the middle break will partially flood that town. If the levee in front of Greenville should break, no man can conceive what the loss to life and property would be. Probably 10,000 people are working with a desperation born of despair to save their homes and property. The whole machinery of the state and of the Illinois Central railroad is being brought into play.

At Greenville, Miss., thousands of flood-bound people are caught and penned in between the three Bolivar county levee breaks, and no communication can be had with them. Refugees coming into the city from the country this side of the Mound break report many families in peril of their lives on the other side of the crevasse, as there is only seven miles of country between them and Sted's and it is next to impossible for all to escape.

Two hundred and fifty towns and villages will be under water in three days, and thousands upon thousands of families will be homeless. No losses of human life are yet reported, but hairbreadth escapes from the destructive torrents are numerous, and the suffering of the afflicted people is great.

THE CHANDLER STORM.

Scenes of Terrible Devastation Left by Tuesday's Cyclone—Twenty-Six Bodies Recovered.

GUTHRIE, Ok., April 1.—What was Tuesday the beautiful, thriving little city of Chandler, located on a timbered hill near the center of Lincoln county, Ok., is to-day a shapeless mass of ruins, a barren, devastated waste, made gruesome by the dead and peopled by a homeless, stricken, suffering, hopeless people. The few homes that are left are turned into hospitals; the remnant of the leading hotel into a morgue. A thousand people are homeless and half as many are without a thing in the world. Help on a large scale is needed. The loss is fully \$500,000. All yesterday the work of rescuing and caring for the injured was carried on, and the scene was one beyond all description. A large majority of the people are left homeless and penniless, with scarcely clothes to cover their backs, and many are already suffering. The war department was applied to for tents yesterday, and 50 have been sent from Fort Reno.

There are not coffins enough to bury the dead, and carpenters are making boxes from the wreckage of buildings. Never has a town been more completely wiped out, and the majority of the business men are wholly ruined. A messenger late last night from southwest of Chandler says that many farm houses were demolished there, a number of people injured and two killed. The little village of Parkland is reported completely destroyed, with many injured. Up to last night 26 dead bodies had been recovered from the ruins at Chandler. How many more are buried under the debris only a more careful search will reveal.

MURDER MYSTERY CLEARED.

Young Man Confessed to an Assault Which Caused W. H. Orris' Death.

WICHITA, Kan., April 1.—In 1895 when a wealthy Englishman and stockman of Severy, Greenwood county, named W. H. Orris, went to the depot to take the train to go to the Knights Templar convocation he was sandbagged near the station and robbed of \$400 in money and \$6,000 in government bonds. From the effects of this slugging he died three months after. Ever since the identity of his assailants has been a mystery, but now a young man named Webster, recently sent to the state reformatory at Hutchinson, confesses that he and a man named Powell, both residents of Severy, did the sandbagging. He says the original purpose of the assault was not robbery, but was based on the jealousy of Powell over some woman whose name could not be learned. The executors of the estate of Orris brought suit in the United States circuit court at Fort Scott to recover \$31,000 accident insurance, but the judge ruled the case out of court, declaring that the evidence pointed conclusively to suicide. The coroner's jury, however, had returned a verdict of death from injuries received at the hands of unknown assassins.

GEN. LEE STORY DENIED.

No Successor Has Yet Been Chosen to the Consul-General at Havana.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—It is said at the state department that no successor has been selected to take Gen. Lee's place as consul-general at Havana; that he has not been cable a leave of absence to take effect on April 15, and finally that there has been no change in the status of the consul-general. It is also intimated, but not stated so positively as above, that there is no intention of making any change in the consulate-general in the near future at least. Gen. Lee may be assisted in the task of watching the investigation in the Ruiz case by William R. Day, of Canton, O., provided counsel is believed to be essential to the development of the facts, but the position of Mr. Day in such case would be purely advisory.

THE SKIFF OVERTURNED.

A Kentucky Family Drowned While Trying to Escape from Their Flooded Home.

ENDYVILLE, Ky., April 1.—News was received here of the drowning in the Cumberland river of William Flick and his family of three. According to the report, Mr. Flick was trying to move his family, consisting of wife and two children, from his flooded house on the Cumberland, near Trigg furnace, this county. The skiff overturned and, in the darkness, all were drowned. The current there is very swift and no small boat could live in it. Mr. Flick was a well-to-do farmer.

KANSAS TORNADO VICTIM.

The Twelve-Year-Old Son of a Cowley County Widow Killed.

WINFIELD, Kan., April 1.—Ernest V. Croco, 12 years old, was killed in a tornado which passed over the western part of this county Tuesday. His mother is a widow, living five miles southwest of this city, and they were at the barn together when the storm struck. Mrs. Croco sought shelter behind a large tree and escaped injury, but the boy was caught in the wreck and killed. When found, the bones in the head were broken into little pieces.

Fifth Kansas District W. C. T. U.

ABILENE, Kan., April 1.—The semi-annual convention of the Fifth congressional district W. C. T. U. closed a two-days' session here yesterday. County presidents reported good progress. The officers for the coming year are: Mrs. L. A. Case, president; Mrs. A. Story, secretary; Mrs. Clara Currie, treasurer. Salina was chosen as the meeting place for next fall.

TRADE REPORT.

Business Showing Improvement—Higher Prices for Wool, Corn and Oats.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Bradstreet's report says:

The course of general trade shows some improvement, notwithstanding an almost complete stoppage of business in the south Mississippi valley by washouts, overflows, and floods. The condition of country roadways throughout the central west states and the northwest is such as to still further delay collections and check demand from interior merchants. Another drop is recorded in prices of Bessemer pig iron and steel billets, and in wheat, flour, coal, coffee and lard, which is partly offset by increasing activity and higher prices for wool and for woolsens, for corn, oats, sugar and petroleum. A heavy movement of fertilizers is reported in the south Atlantic states; interest in lumber and shingles has increased on the northwest Pacific coast. Most favorable trade reports are from the northwest spring wheat states.

There are 4,042 business failures in the United States reported by Bradstreet's during the past quarter, compared with 4,518 in the first quarter of 1896, a falling off of about 11 per cent. The decrease is reported from all sections except New England and the territories. The larger number of eastern state failures are small ones. The total liabilities of those failing in the New England states are about 22 per cent. smaller during the past quarter than a year ago. Liabilities of all individuals, firms and corporations which failed amount to \$62,513,000, a falling off of 16 per cent. from the corresponding total last year.

Special reports to Bradstreet's from 50 cities, with reference to revival in activity in industrial lines, indicate there are at work at those centers probably not to exceed 100,000 in excess of the number employed in November last. The increase is largely among employees of manufacturers of woollen goods, shoes, clothing, machinery, engines, agricultural implements, bicycles, carriages, furniture, iron, steel, glass and ship building. Depression still exists among some branches of the woollen goods industry, in coal mining and cotton goods manufactures.

Bank clearings for March at 82 cities throughout the United States show an increase of 1.8 per cent., compared with March one year ago, the first monthly increase over a corresponding total one year ago since April, 1894.

FOUR MEN HANGED.

The Leaders of the "Button Gang" Executed for Killing Sheriff Chavez.

SANTA FE, N. M., April 3.—Francisco Gonzales y Borrego, Antonio Gonzales y Borrego, Sauriano Alarid and Patricio Talencia, condemned to death for the murder of ex-Sheriff Frank Chavez, who was killed from ambush on the night of May 29, 1892, were hanged together on one scaffold at 9:10 o'clock yesterday morning. The four men were perfectly stolid at the close. There was no sign of disturbance, the authorities having taken extra precautions and militia being stationed about the jail. The four men were members of the executive committee of what is known as the "Button Gang," a league organized to combat the political influence of Chavez, who was a democratic leader in Santa Fe.

Department Bulletin on Chickens.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—A new farmers' bulletin, which is likely to prove of great interest to chicken fanciers, is being sent out by the department of agriculture. It is devoted to a careful and thorough description of standard varieties of chickens, and is the work of George E. Howard, secretary of the National Poultry and Pigeon association. The description is given in detail of 87 standard varieties of fowls and several promiscuous varieties which are raised in this country. All the leading breeds are illustrated excellently from drawings by Howard.

Tariff Bill Will Be Modified.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The republican members of the senate committee on finance are continuing their work day and night on the tariff bill, with the intention of reporting it to the senate at the earliest possible day. They are not yet prepared to give out any of the results of their investigations. There is, however, a well defined impression about the senate that the bill will be generally remodeled, and the rates considerably reduced in many of the schedules.

A Church Two Hundred Years Old.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Trinity church, full of years of ecclesiastical honors, will soon celebrate with great ceremony the bi-centenary of its existence. The Trinity's 200th birthday, the anniversary of the issuance of its charter by William III. of England in 1697, falls upon May 6. It will be dignified by an eight days' festival, beginning on Sunday, May 3, and ending on Sunday, May 9.

Murder Over a Woman.

HAYDEN, Ky., April 3.—Tom Ogleshorpe, a prosperous farmer, accused his wife of having been intimate with Henry Schneider, a farm hand. They quarreled and Ogleshorpe's wife left him. Ogleshorpe then went to Schneider and shot him through the heart with a Winchester, after which he turned the weapon to his own head and killed himself. He was about 33 years old and had no children.

Trumped-Up Charge Not Sufficient.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The president has caused the announcement to be made with renewed emphasis that removals of postmasters will not be made upon trumped-up charges, and that where "pernicious partisanship" is alleged as a cause for removal, the partisanship must be shown to have been detrimental to the performance of public duties.

Congress May Take a Recess.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—There is talk that the house and senate may take a recess of four weeks to allow the senate committee to work on the Dingley bill. The house cannot take a recess longer than three days without the senate's consent, but the adoption of a joint resolution making a four weeks' recess possible will probably be carried.